

CHAPTER XVII.

I MEET WITH A HAPPY ADVENTURE. The rest of this signal victory-in which seventeen hundred prisoners were taken, besides the Maj. Gen. Chudleigh, and all the rebels' camp, campa and victoals—I leave historians to tell. For very soon after the your was assured (the plain below full of men screaming and running, and Col. John Digby siragoous after them, classing, cutting and hand, and, turning, I found Molly behind me with the groom to whom I had given her is the morning. The rogue had counted on a crown for his readiness, and swore the mure was ready for anything, he having mixed half a pint of strong ale with her mash, not half an hour before.

So I determined to see the end of it, and, paying the fellow, climbed into the saddle. On the summit the Cornish captains were now met and cordially embracing. 'Tis very sad in these latter times to call back their shouts and boyish laughter, so soon to be rosenshed on Landowns sloges or by Bristol tory, to grasp her fluttering skirt, and so, with warm, panting checks, kissing her, to

fall, escuping svil days! How could they laught For me the late inte struggle left me shaken with nob eround, nor sun, nor twinkling sea. Brush-ing them away, I was aware of Billy Pottery striding at my stirrup and munching at a biscuit he had found in the roteis' camp.

We, the descent being gentle, broke into run, in hopes to catris up with Col. John Dig by's dragoons, that already were far acr with dead and dving, whereof four out of cursed us as we passed them by. Night was in deep shadow, but could see the vellow sur the foot, and were climbing again. Behind us the cheering yet continued, though fainter; and fainter grow the cries and shouting in steep hedge under the which two or three stout robels were cowering. As we came tumbling almost a-top of them they ran yell ing, and we let them go in yeare.

The lune gradually led us to westward, out of the main line of the rout, and past a hamlot where every door was shut and all siles And at last a clice of the sen fronted us, between two steeply shelving hills. great of the road, before it plunged down towords the coast, was a wagon lying against the hedge, with the horses poste; and beside it, stretched across the read, an old woman. Stopping, we found her dead, with a swordthrust through the left breast; and inside the wagon a young man lying, with his jaw bound up-dead also. And how this sad apsenable happened here, so far from the bat-ple field, was more than we could cuess. I was moving away, when Billy, that was

up towards tim sea, and, dropping the dead stood looking, with a puzzled face.

moving under short-ned canvas, about two miles from the land. She made a piensant right, with the last rays of smallght flaming on her sails; but for Bally's perturbation could not account, so turned an inquiring

'Suthin' i' the wind out youder," was his answer. "What's a sloop doing on that ratch so close in by the point! Be dauged! but here she goes again;" as the little vess swame off a point or two farther from the "Time to sup, ind, for the both of us," he broke

Indeed, I was faint with hanger by this time, yet had no stomach to cut thus close to the dead. So, turning into a gate on our left down to mp off Edly a biscuits, the mare standing quietly beside us and cropping the

The field where we now found ourselves ran out along the top of a small promoutery and ended, without fence of any sort, at t claFs edge. As I sat, looking southward, I could only observe the sloop by turning my head, but Billy, who equatted over against , hardly took his eyes off her, and between this and his meal was too busy to speak a word. For me, I had enough to do thinking over the late fight; and, being mor worn out, had bulf a mind to spend the night there on the hard such for, though the sun was now down and the landscape gray, yet the air was there breathed a light breeze now and then, me. So I stratched myself out, and found is very pleasant to his still; nor, whom Billy stood up and sountered off towards the far ent or the bendlima, did I stir more than to form my beed and lamly watch him.

He was some half on hour at the least, and the sky by this time was so dark that I had lost eight of him, when, rosing on my elbow at a resign where the turf broke off, not tures Immired yarns behind mr, and a thin smoki curling up in it, as it seemed from the very the smoke coased almost, but the skine very strong. "Billy Lax lit a fire." I guessed. spired a black form crawling towards me, and

Mp and becaused, then legan to lead the way back as he had come,

left Molly to browse and crept after him on bands and knows. He turned his head once to make mre I was following, and then scrambled on quicker, but sorrly, towards the point where the red glow was shining.
Once more he pulled up—as I judged about

twelve paces distance from the edge and, after considering for a second, began to move again, only now he worked a little And soon I saw the litterity a of this for just learn the chiff's lip was clade by a the -very like that in Scawfell suich we were used to call the Lord's Raise, only nar rower that ran back late the field and might couly serguide some way down it though hew far I could not then tell. And

twas from this flature that the glow came. Along the right hip of this Billy led me, dirting it by a couple of yards and wriggling pelly has a temperature, wrawn the black turd, I stopped beside him and strove to quiet the vaclence of my breaking. Then, after a minute's pause, logother we pulled ourselves to the edge and pe The descent of the gully was broken, some eight feet below us, by a small ledge, sloping twurde about six fout (as I green),

screened by branches of the wild tampron At the back, in an angle of the solid rock was now set a pan placed, with boles, and full of burning charcouf; and over this a man in the receis' uniform was stooping.

He had a small paper parcel in his left

hand, and was blowing at the charcess with all bismight. Halding my brests, I beard n clearly, but omild semistring of his face. for is both was towards on all saffic armine, you said your bine; but solvening "If you ! But heremon the word was riven, and we!

the glow. The charcoal Thines as they rose choked me so that I was very near a fit of coughing, when Billy laid one hand on my shoulder, and with the other pointed out to seaward

Looking that way, I saw a small light shining on the sen, pretty closs in. Twas a lan-tern nung out from the sloop, as I concluded on the instant; and now I began to have an nkling of wint was toward.

But looking down again at the man with he charcoal pan, I saw a black head of hair afted, and then a pair of red puffed cheeks, and a pimpled nose with a mar nerous the bridge of it—all abiding in the glare of the

"Powers of heaven!" I gasped; "'tis that bloody villain Lake Settle

And, springing to my feet, I took a jump er the edge and came sprawling on top of im. The scoundrel was stooping with hi perclose to the pau, and had not time to urn before I hit with a thud on his sho ers flattening him on the ledge and nearly ending his face on top of the live coals. Two are madden that inform he could so much as think, my flugers were about his windpipe and the both of us struggling flat on the brink of the precipies. For he had a bull's strength and heaved and kicked, so that I fully looked, next moment, to be flyor over the edge into the seat nor could held on and worked my fingers in, and thought how he had strangled the mustif that night on the bowling green, and vowed to serve him the same if only strength held

But now, just as he had almost twisted his neck free, I beard a stone or two break away above us, and down came Billy Pottery flying atop of us, and planed us to the ledge.

Two short work now. Within a minute, Capt. Luke Settle was turned on his back, his eyes fairly starting with Billy's clutch on his throat, his mouth wide open and gasping; I slipped the nozale of my pistol between his teeth; and with that he had no more chance, but gave in, and like a lamb submitted to have his arms trussed behind him with Billy's leathern belt and his less with his own

'Now," said I, standing over him, and put ting the pistol against his temple, "you and ents that 'twould be well to square. So est tell me, what do you here, and where is Mistress Delia Killigrew F I think that till this moment the bully had

no bica bisas affants were more than a chance the clow of the burning charcoal on my face, is ripped out a horrid blasphemous curse, and straightway fell to speaking enimity. "Good airs, the game is yours, with care, R'fid! but you hold a pretty hand-if only

you know how to play it."
"Tis you shall help me, captain; but let
us be clear about the stalos. For you, 'tis
life or death; for me, 'its to regain Mistress
Delia, failing which I shoot you here through the head and topple you into the sen. You are the know of trumps, sir, and I play that eard; as matters now stand, only the queen

"Right: but where be king and see?" "The king is the Cornish army yonder; the ace is my pistol here, which I hold." And that's a very pretty comprehension of the game, sir; I play the queen.

For answer, he pointed seaward, where the

black waters. sloop! And who is with her, pray?"

"All the knaves left in the pack-God help light, and my heart beat heavily. "God belp beet" I said searn, and turning spied a grin

"Under Providence," answored be, "your inworthy, ervant may suffice. But what is my reward to be?

"Your nock," said I, "if I can save it when you are led before the Cornish captains."
"That's fair enough; so histen. These few months the sady has been shut in Bristol Keep, conveyed her back safe and sound. This same

'A dirty rogue, whom you may as well "Bight, young sir; a very dirty vogue, and a niggardly; I late a mean rescal. Well, fearing her second escape from that prison. and being hand in glove with the parifamen nen, he gets her on board a sleop bound for the Virginius, flist at the time when he knows the Earl of Stamford is to march and crush the Cornishmen. For escort she has the three comrades of mine that I named; and the captain of the sloop is fellow that asks no questions has orders to cruise along the coast hereabouts till be gets news of the battle."

"Which you were just now about to give nim," cried I, suddenly sulightened. "Right again. Twas a pretty scheme, for d'ye serf-if all want well with the Earl of Stanford, the king s law would be wiped out a Cornwall, and Master Tingnomb (with his claims and moritorious services might snan its thumb thereat. So, in that case, Mate Delia was to be broughted ore here and taken to him, to serve as he fan 21. But if the day should go against us—as it line—she was to sail to the Virginias with the sloop, and there se sold as a slave. Or worse might happen;

"God knows 'my vilo snough," said I scarce Coming close, he halted, put a finger to his able to refrain from blowing his brains out. "So you were to follow the earl's army, and work the signals) Which are they?" quick resolve and come into my head, and I "A green light if we won; if not, a red | scramble,

I picted up the packet that had droomed on his band when first Leptung upon h It was burst shroud, and a brown powder trickled from it about the ledge

This was the red light -to be sprinkled on the burning charcoal, I suppose?"

The fellow pedded. At the same moment Rully rwite as yet had not spoke a word and of course, understood nothing thrust into my hand another pucket that he had found stuck

Now tell mo-in case the rebels won where "In the cove below here where the road

"Ay, the road where the wagen, stood," dust noticed after a moment. 'And how many would seent her?"

He enuglet my drift and laughed softly. "Be damned, sir, but I begin to love you or you play the game very proper and Rechen, Jerseny and Black Die cort her) For the skitner and crew have

Then, Mester Settle, though it he a sore trial to you, these three itnaces you must give me, or I play my ecc." and I pressed the ing of my phitol sharply against his ear as a

"Web all my beart, young sir, you shall have them," says he, broskly. And this is those among theore, have now Master S thought I: "you would sell your commute as for his own escape.

ery out, or speak one word to warn them"-Before I could get my sentence out, Billy Pottery broke in with a voice like a trumpet: "As folks go, Jack, I be a humorous man. But sittin' here an' ponderin' this way an' that, I says, in my deaf an' afflicted style,

'Why not shoot the ugly rogue, if mirth, in-deed, be your object?' For to wait till an uglier comes to this untraveled spot is super-fluity." How to explain matters to Billy was more than I could tell, but in a moment he himself supplied the means. For the rocks here were of some kind of slate, very hard, but scaly; and finding two pieces, a large and a small, he banded them to me, bawling that I was to write therewith. So, giving him my pistol, I made shift to scribble a few words. Seeing

his eyes twinkle as he read I stood up. mass of red and threw so clear a light on us might see our forms and suspect their misad But the lantern still hung stendily so, signing to Billy to drag our prisoner be hind a tamarisk bush, I opened the second packet and poured some of the powder into

It was composed of tiny crystals, yellow and flaky; and, holding it, for a moment I was possessed with a horrid fear that this night be the signal to warn the sloop away. I flung a look at the captain, who read my thoughts on the instant.

"Never fear, young sir; am no such hero as to sell my life for that tag-rag. Only make haste, for your deaf friend has a cursed ugly

way of fumbling his pistol."

So, taking heart, I tore the packet wide, and shook out the powder on the coals.
Instantly there came a dense, choking vapor, and a vivid green flare that turned the rocks, the sky and our faces to a ghastly brilliance. For two minutes, at least, this unnatural light lasted. As soon as it died away and the fumes cleared, I looked sea-

The lanters on the sloop was moving in answer to the signal. Three times it was lifted and lowered; and then in the stillness I heard voices calling, and soon after the reg-

ular splash of oars. There was no time to be lost. Pulling the captain to his feet, we scrambled up the gully, and out at the top, and across the fields as fast as our legs would take us. Molly came to my call and trotted beside me-th tain following some paces behind, and Billy At the gate, however, where we turned sound of her hoofs should betray us, and down towards the sea we pelted, till almost at the foot of the hill I pulled up and listened,

the others following my example.

We could hear the sound of ears plain looked about me. On either side the road was now bunked by tall hills, with clusters of bracken and furza bushes lying darkly on their slopes. Behind one of these stationed Billy with the captain's long sword and a pistol that I by signs forbade him to fire unless in extremity, Then, retiring some forty paces up the road, I hid the captain and

myself on the other side. Hardly were we thus disposed before I heard the sound of a boat grounding on the then the noise of feet trampling the shingle. Upon which I ordered my prisoner to give a hatl, which he did readily.

"Ahoy, Dick! Ahoy, Reuben Gedges!" In a moment or two came the answer: "Alloy, there, captain—here we be!"
"Fetch along the cargo!" shouted Capt.

Where he you? "Up the road here-waiting!" "One minute, then-wait one minute, can-

I heard the boat pushed off, some goodnights called, and then (with tender anguish) the voice of my Delia lifted in entreaty. As take her back to the sloop, nor leave, her to these villains. There followed an oath or two growled out, a short serleamage, and at came the tramp of heavy feet on the road

So fired was I at the sound of Delia's voice, So fired was Lat the sound of Demasyone, some distributions of the presence, that the sound of Lept quiet behind the work needed not ber presence, and that she had been writered to the priming of my pixtol, and also bid the pixtol and pixtol ner came a man bearing a lantern. whose v "Cau't be quicker, captain," he called; before.

Sure enough, ofter him there carse in view

between them-one by the fest, the other by the shoulders. I ground my teeth to see if, for she writhed sorely. On they came, however, until not more than ten paces off; and then that traiter, Luke Settle, rose up behind

our bush. "Set her here, boys," said he, "and tie her pretty anales." 'Well mer, captain," said the fellow with

the lantern-Reuben Gedges-stepping fori; "give us your hand" He was holding out his own, when I sprang

set the pistol close to his closet and fired. this scream mingled with the roar of it, and, pping the lantern, he threw up his hands and tumbled in a heap. At the same moment out went the light, and the other rascals, drepping Delia, turned to run, crying But behind them came now a shout from

Billy, and a crashing blow that almost severed Black Dick sarm at the shoulder; and at the same instant I was on Shoter Toy's collar, and had him down in the first. Kuseling on his class, with my sword point at his throat, I had leaure to giance at Bally, who in the dark seemed to be sitting on the head of his disabled victim. And then I felt a touch on my shoulder, and a dear face peered "Is it Jack-my sweet Jack?"

"To be sure," said 1; "and if you but reout your hand, I will kiss it, for all that I'm "Nav. Juck. Fil kiss thee on the cheek-so!

Dear lad, I am so frightened, and yet could But now I caught the sound of galloping on the road above, and should, and then

more galloping; and down cause a troop of herseman that were like to have ridden over Who in the flend's name is here?' shouted

the foremost, pulling in his horse with a "Honest men and rebels regetter," I answered; "but light the lantern that you will first handy by, and you shall know one from

By the time 'twas found and lit there was a dozen of Col. John Dighe's dragoons about , and before the two villians were bound comes a limit duran men, leading in Capt. Settle, that had taken to his brede at the first ow and climbed the nill, all tied as he was about the liands, and was caught in his en-dever to clamber on Mully's back. So he and Black Lick and Jeremy Toy were strapped up; but Renhou Geiges we left on the road for a corpse. Yet he did not die finourin through the hung , but recevered—beaven knews how; and I mrself had the pleasure to of his majesty's most bisseed restoration, for Maidenmed Thirket, and robbing the bishop

himself with much added contumely. But as we were remry to start, and I was bolding Delia steady on Molly's back, up comes Billy and buwls in my ear:

There's a second horse, if wanted, that I spied tethered under a hedge youter he pointed to the field where we had first end Cupt. Settle—"in color a sad black, an harmessed like as if he came from a cart. I looked at the captain, who in the light of the lastern blinked again. "Then bloody within?" muttered I, for now I read the tragedy of the stagen beside the road, and knew new Master Settle had provided a horse

started up the hill, I walking by Delia saur rup and listening to her talk as if we had never been parted—yet with a tender joy, having by loss of it learned to appraise m

CHAPTER XVIII.

JOAN DOES ME HER LAST SERVICE. We came, a little before midnight, to Sir Bevill's famous great house of Stow, near Kilkhampton; that to-night was brightly lit and full of captains and troopers feasting, as well they needed to, after the great victor And here, though loath to do so, I left Delia to the care of Lady Grace Grenville, Sir Bevill's fond, beautiful wife, and of all gentlewomen I have ever seen the pink and paragon, as well for her loyal heart as the graces of her mind; who, before the half of our tale was out, kissed Delia on both cheeks and ied her away. "To you, too, sir, I would counsel bed," said she, "after you have eaten and drunk, and especially given God thanks for this day's work."

Sir Bevill I did not see, but, striding down into the hall, picked my way among the drinking and drunken; the servants hurrydishes of roast and baked and great tankards of beer; the swords and pikes flung iown under the forms and settles, and stick ing out to trip a man up; and at length found a groom who led me to a loft over one of the arns; and here, above a mattress of hav, I slept the first time for many months between fresh linen that smelt of lavender, and, in thinking how pleasant 'twas, dropped sound

Sure there is no better, sweeter couch than this of linen spread over hay. Early in the morning I woke with with clear as water, and not an ache or ounce of weariness in my ones; and, after washing at the pump be low, went in search of breakfast and Sir Bevill. The one I found, ready laid, in the hull; the other seated in his writing room, studying in a map; and with apology for my haste, handed him Master Tingcomb's coulession and told my story.
When 'twas over, Sir Bevill sat pondering,

and after a while said, very frankly: 'As a magistrate I can give this warrant and 'twould be a pleasure, for well, as a boy, do I remember Deakin Killigrew. Young sir"—he rose up, and, taking a turn across the room, came and laid a hand on my shoul-

der-"I have seen his daughter. Is it too late to warn you against loving her?" "Why, yes," I answered, blushing; "I think "She seems both sweet and quaint. God forbid I should say a word against one that has so taken me! But in these times a man should stand alone; to make a friend is to run

a chance of a soft heart; to marry a wife makes the chance sure"-He broke off, and went on again with a "For many reasons I would blithely issue this warrant. But how am I to spare men to

carry it out! At any moment we may be as-"If that be your concern, sir," answered I, "give me the warrant. I have a good friend ere, a senfaring man, whose vessel lies at ment in Looe Haven, with a crew board, that will lay Muster Tingcomb by the sels in a trice. Within three days we'll have him clapsed in Launceston fail, and here at the next assize you shall sit on the grand jury and hear his case, by which time, hope, the king's law shall run on easier wheels in Cornwall. The prisoners we have already I leave you to deal withal; only, against my will, I must claim some mercy

or that rogue Settle."
To this Sir Bevill consented; and, to be the three knaves were next morning packed off to Launceston; but in time, no vidence being brought against them, regained their freedom, which they used to ne to the gallows, each in his own way. Their doings no longer concern this history,

To return, then, to my proper tale, 'twas not ten minutes before I had the warrant in my pocket. And by 11 o'clock (word having en carried to Delia, and our plans laid before Billy Pottery, who on the spot engaged himself to help us; our horses were brought round to the gate and my mistress appeared all ready for the journey. For though as-

Tingcomb was smoked out of his nest, she would have none of it, but was set on riding called, softly, and then, "I make a better lad whose viliainy I had told her much the night a gap in the wall and in a moment was breasther?" I muttered, as I looked out towards the type jade structles so that Dick and Jeremy saw her standing on the entrance steps, fresh In less than a minute, as it seemed, I heard as a rose, and in a fit habit once more; for a pounding of hoofs, and had burely time to Lady Grace had lent not only her own has follow Delia up the ladder and pull it after horse, but also a riding dress and hat of gray velvet to equip her, and stood in the porch to by the house and passed on welling.

So, with Billy tramping behind us, away we rode up the combs, where Kilkhampton | "be-langed if as not took the road back to tower stood against the sky; and, turning to wave hands at the top, found our host and tess still by the gate, watching us, with "Here's her horse i' the yard." hands raised to shield their eyes from the

At Launceston, Billy Pottery took leave by Loos, with a light purso and lighter heart, the one they called Sam dismounting in the undertaking that his ship should lie off Gleys, yard. Now, there was a window hole in the with her crew ready for action, within eight-and-forty hours. Delia and I rode faster country behind, and running to it, I saw towards the southwest; and having by thit that no more were following—the other three time recovered my temper, I was recounting having, as I suppose, early given up the my flight along this very road, when I hearti chase. Softly pulling out a losse stone or mi that brought my heart into my two, I widened this help till I could thrust the ladder out of it. To my joy it just reached the ground. I bade Delia squeeza berself

Twas the blast of a bugle, and came from behind the bill in front of us. And at the through and climb down same moment I understood. It must be Sir George Chudleign's cavalry returning, on a wild screech in the kitchen below and the news of their comrades' defeat, and me were voice of Sam shricking. riding straight towards them as into a trap. og straight towards them as into a trap.

"Help—help! Lord ha' mercy 'pon me—
"tis a black cat—'tis a witch! The galls no of this danger I cannot explain, unless it be that our thorough victory over the robels had Laughing softly given me the notion that the country behind der when the fellow came round the corner was clear of foss. And Sir Bevill must screaming-with Jan Tergugis clawing at his have had a notion we were going straight to back and spitting murrierously. Delia had Lose with Billy. At any rate there was no just time to allo axide, before he ran into the time to be lest, for my presence was a danger ladder and brought me flying on top of him.

And there he lay and bellowed tail I tied him. Quick?" I crisd: "follow me and ride for

And, striking spur into Molly, I turned pursuers were out of eight. sharp off the road and galloped across the long skirt being followed me, and up the tor moor to the left, with Delia close after me. cons at our heels, the rest going round the But they did little good by so doing, pince?" asked I, with a length that hollow came a broad dismal for after the hollow came a broad, disma sect of water (by name Dozmare pool, I have since heard, about a mile round and with black peat. Galloping along the left shore of this, we cut them off by How I have trusted you in return it were best near half a mile. But the three behind for you to remember, and for me to forget " lowed doggedly, though dropping back with

o'clock, I heard steps coming over the turf. Beyond the pool came a green valley, and I ran out. Twus Joan benefit and leading Molly by the bridle. She walked as if tired, a stream flowing down it, which we jumped assit. Giancing at Delia as she landed on the farther side, I noted that her caseks were and, leaving the more at the entrance, fol lowed me into the care. Glancing round, I glowing and her eyes brimful of mirth. noted that Issia had slipped away.
"Am glad she's gene," said Joan, shortly

"Say, Jack," she cried, "is not this better than love of women?" "In heaven's name," I called out, "take

But it was too late. The green waller here neited into a treacherous bog, in the which on the ground with a sigh-"four that'll our hay was already plunging over his fetcks and every moment sinking deeper.
"Throw me the rein." I should, said, much ing the bridle close by the bit, leaned over and

ed to drag the herse ferward. By this,

Molly also was over about in liquid mud. For

the moor past Tober an' Catchole an' over a minute and more we heaved and spinshed; and all the while the dragoons, seeing our fix, Brown Wuly, an recod Roughter to the ner were thousing and drawing nearer and nearer. But just as a brace of bullets eplashed west; an' there ize the bravest quag-ch, a black betteries bele-an'into it I led them; nto the slough at eur feet, we staggered to an' there they lie, every home, an' every the harder slope, and were gaining on them mother's son, till Judgment Day. again. So for twenty minutes Ay-an' the last twain will a built aplece urs of the hills we held on, the enemy failin their smalls. Ou, rare! Dear heart-held n the bollows but always following: at the my head-so, atmoss thy hands. 'Put on his and of which time. Belia called from just becast off duds," said Alisis, "an" stand after a

ninety time. I was mortal Yeard o' losin' "Jack-here's a to-do; the bay is going

ides of the tall tor above it.

a child to his mother

sights. They had spied us.

otes, the straggling fences—all so familiar-rossed the stream and rode into the yard.

back against the sun, binned into my eyes.

her hand was the mirror I had given her.

sobbing and laughing together.

tighter-for my very heart is bursting

way; and there stood Delia regarding us.

ecyan, to Alsie Pascoe, the wise woman-

bless her, Jack, for 't hath brought thee!'

must lend me a horse, and at once

wonder, the other with cold disdainfulness-

for a full minute like drawn blr

being a man," I answered.

there came another three.

"Jack, is lay mure in the yard?"

"Give me thy pistols and thy cloak,"

Ay-bein' a man; the world's full o' folly.

ace, make for the Jews' Kitchen and there

She flung my clouit about her took my

pistels and went out at the door. As she did

the sun sunk and a dull shadow swent over

the moor. "Jean!" I cried, for now I guessed

her purpose and was following to hinder her;

but she had caught Molly's bridle and was

'A's a lost man, now, for sure," said one;

her; reckon thou'rt warriors enow for one

flut before she was half way down I heard

Laughing softly, I was descending the lad-

"Comet" I wisispered; for Joan and ber

The dark drew on; but as I think, about 10

"How many rebels passed this way, Juck?"

and down at the cottage.

never trouble thee more, lad."

WUTT BOW .--

Five, counting one that he gagged and

That leaves four -she stretched berself

"Listen, lad; sit down an' let me rest my

head 'non thy knon. On Jack, I did to brave-

ly! Eight good miles an' more I took the mare—by the Four Holed Cross, an' across

mouth and his own scarf tied a

sale in the Jaws' Kitchen.

Then, Jack, do thou look after her, an Pil look after thee. If the reliefs leave thee in

which I have never heard so full was it of

oking joy. The glass dropped to the floor

For Joan stood in front of me, dressed in

he very clothes I had worn on the day we

ount; but afore I got to fifty I beard thy There was no doubt of it. I suppose he ten an'-hold me closer, Jack. must have wrung his off hind leg in fighting through the quag. Anyway, ten minutes more would see tide end of his gallop. But at But Joan, are these men dead, say your "Surely, yes. Why, lad, what be four down, to make this coll over this moment we had won to the top of a stiff Hast never axed after me!"

"Joan-you are not hurt?" ascent; and now, looking down at our feet, I had the joyfulest surprise.

Twas the moor of Temple spread below In the darkness I sought her eyes, and, peerng into them, drew back. like a map, the low sun striking on the ruin-ed huts to the left of us, on the roof of Joan's

"Hush, lad-bend down thy head, and let stage, on the scar of the high road, and the ne whisper. I went too near-an' one, that vas over his knees, let fly wi'his musket-an' Jack, I have but a minute or two. Hush, "In ten minutes," said I, "we may be safe," So down into the plain we hurried; and I shought for the first time of the loyal girl lad, bush-there's no call! Wert never the man could ba' tamed mo-art the weaker, in waiting in the cottage youder; of my former way; forgie the word, for I loved thee so,

ride into Temple; and (with augry shame) of the light heart with which I left it. To what Her arms were drawing down my face to had the summoning drums and trumpets led me? Where was the new life, then so careher, her eyes dull with pain. "Feel, Jack—there—over my right breast. I plugged the wound wi' a peat turf. Pull it lessly prevented? But two days had gone ere was I running to Joan for help, as out, for 'tis bleeding inwards, and burts

-pull it out!" As I besitated, she thrust her own hand in and drew it forth, leaving the hot blood to "Jump down," I whispered; "we have time, and no more." Glancing back, I saw a cou-"An' now, Jack, tighter-hold me tighter

Kiss me-ch, what brave times! Tighter, lad, an'call wi'me-'Church and King! Call, ple of dragoons already coming over the lad-'Church an' "-Dismounting, I ran to the cottage door and flung it open. A stream of light, flung The warin arms loosened; the head sank

The warm back upon my lap, tacked up. There was a shadow acr f boked up. There was a shadow acr I looked up. There was a shadow across the entrance, thotting out the star of night. Twas Dolia, leaning there and listening. obed them and halted for a moment

CHAPTER XIX.

first mer-buil cont, breeches, heavy boots, and all. Her back was towards me, and at THE ADVENTURE OF THE BRADSE. the shoulder, where the cost had been cut away from my wound. I saw the rents all The day spring came at last, and in the ck light of it I went down to the cottage for darned and patched with pack thread. In spade and pickax. In the tumult of my senses I hardly noted that our prisoner, the At the sound of my step on the threshold be turned with a short cry—a cry the like of dragoon, had contrived to slip his bonds and

And then Delia, seeing me return with the nd tools on my shoulder, spoke for the first

and was shattered. In a second her arms were about me, and so she hung on my neck, First, if there be a well near, fetch me two buckets of water, and leave us for an was true-'twas true! Dear, dear Jack

-dear Jack, to come to me; hold me tighter, Her voice was weary and chill, so that I dared not thank her, but did the errand in And behind me a shadow fell on the doortimes. Then, but a dozen paces from the where Joan's father lay, I due a grave "Good Ind-all yesterday I swore to be nd strewed it with bracker, and heather, and gorse paints, that in the morning air on womankind to be so weak! All day I sat melt rarely. And soon after my task was an' sat, an' did never a mits o' work-never

done, Delia called me. In her man's dress Joan lay, her arms set hand to a tool; my by sunset I gave in an' went cursing mysel', over the moor to Warcrossed, her black freeze branket, and her face gentler than ever 'twas in life. Over sink flower that grew about the tor. So I lifted her softly as once in this same

arms gently from my neck; "listen; I come because I am chased. Once more the draslope to the grave, and there I buried cooners are after me-not five minutes away, her, while Delia linelt and prayed, and Molly browsed, lifting now and then her head to "Nav," said a voice in the doorway, "the

When all was done, we turned away, dry Joan turned, and the two women stood eyed, and walked together to the cuttage. The bay horse was feeding on the moor be ow; and, finding him still too lame to carry Each was beautiful after her hind, as day broken rein, set her on Molly. The cottage door stood open, but we did not enter; only and night; and though their looks crossed looked in; and seeing Jan Tergagle curled be side the cold hearth, left him so. had the mustery. Joan was the first to speak,

Mile after mile we passed in silence, Deita iding and I pacing beside her with the bay. At last, tortured past bearing, I spoke stepped to the window hole at the end of the kitchen and looked out. "Plenty o' time," Delia, have you nothing to my!

For a while she seemed to consider; then with her eyes fixed on the bills ahead, anshe said, and pointed to the ladder leading to the loft above—"Climb up there, the both, and pull the ladder after. Let thou they want—or shell pointing to Delia. "Me curefly they would catch, no doubt—

Much, if I could speak; but all this has changed no somehow—tis, perhaps, that I have grown a woman, having been a girl and need to get used to it and think."

She spoke not angrily, as I looked for, but

with a painful slowness that was less hopeful. shown that I am nought to you. Surely"-Surely I am jealous? The possible—yes, Jack, I am but a woman, and so 'tis certain.

She looked at me straight, and asswered Now that is wint I am fur from more of "

"My anger was brief; I am disappointed, rather. With her last breath almost, Joan mand fall on my shoulder very kindly-"wise ing at her door; and on the other side have been comrades for many a long mile, me, when two of the dragoons rode skurrying fore I loatie to say a much or ungrateful seeming word. But you could not under stand that brave girl, and you cannot understand me; for an yet you do not even know mun, I think; to a woman at one rush. But over, the half us it chemed the quart when it comes. I believe you may be strong "How bout the galf asked another voice, Now leave me to think, for my head he ail of

"Drat the gal! Sam, go thou an' tackle Our pace was so slow thy reason of the inme hones that a great part of the after-The two hastened on; and presently I heard the House of Cleys. And truly the yellow-sinshine had flung some warmth about the exced walls and turrets, so that Delia's homeoming seemed not altogether cheerless. But what gave us more beyond, the bright enavas of As I colock seamle

his coveries. For hardly ware we come towhile kerchief - was an swered for another on-

They were feeded Billy: Matt. Stamm, the master, Gabriel Butchins, Ned Masters, the There was a faint seven up and glunnering black man Sampson, Ben Halliday and two on the street, but onder the house was deep leabed up slong the peginnula together, in

and gagged his poise with a hig stone in his one marked us or noted our movements. The gate was closed, the windows stood aburtared. I to speaking in weispers, and said Ned

"Now a man would think to more to bury

Marching up to the gate I rang a lond peal on the bell, and, to my asteriorants, before the school had tune to die away, the grating was pushed back and the key furned in the

Step we be-step we buy good follest. A soclowings of the none-when the grankopper s a burden an' tao in inchers go about seeking whem they may devour the Inneral meats are valcome, gentlemen."
Twanthe voice of my one eyed friend as

unded the bolts; and now he steed it extensy with a producious black sade across expary livery, so long that the ends of ? west too flagments. Is Magter Tingroush within? I helped

n stable boy that shod stuffling some page Aug .. - the old man beaved a does signand with that began to additionarrow the yard. We trooped after, wondering. At the house

ells to discount, and gave our two horses

Secrito turned: Bire there is cold reasted capacs, an' a hasp, my radiabay in choice prefusion for inbe not troubled wil the wind; an' medial

wines-alone the day?" He opposed a frosty tear from his one eye, and led us to a large have ball, hung rooms with pertraits, where were table spread with a plenty of victorie, and here headled known and forks heside plates of powder, and at the when sayin' "Come, frue past" sistems a table a men in black, rating. He had straight

bair and a sallow race; and loosed up as or ntered, but, groaning, in a ma

But, sirs," the old servitor exhorted us; das! that man may take nothing out of the

I know not who of us was most taken

aback. But noting Delia's sad, wondering face, as her eyes wamered round the neg-ected room and rested on the tattered portraits, I lost patience.

Our business is with Master Hannibal Tingcomb," said I, sharply. The straight haired man looked up again, his mouth full of ham.

"Hush!"—he held his fork up, and shook ds head sorrowfully, and I wondered where I had seen kim before "Hast thou angel's wings?" he asked. "Why, no, sir; but the devil's own boots-is you shall find if I be not answered."

"Young man-young man," broke in the one eyed butter, "our minister is a good minister, an' spenks roundabout as such; Ifat the short is, that my master is dead, an' in his

"The mortal part," corrected the minister cutting another sites "Ay, the immortal is a-trippin' it if the New Jeroconiem; but the mertal was very lamentably took wi's fit three days backthe same day, young man, as thou camest

wi thy bloody tarents "Ay, sir, an' verily such a fit as thou the sel' witnessed. "I'was the third attack, an' he cried, 'On' he did, an' 'Ah' just like that. 'Oh I said then 'Ah'. Stats were his last dyin' speech. 'Dear smaler,' says L there's no call to die so hard;' but might so

A beautiful corpus, sirs, dang my buttoms?"
"Show him to us."
"Willingly, reting man." He list the way
to the very room where Master Tingcomb and I had held our interview. As before six capdles were burning there, but the table was pushed into a corner, and now their triatics in the center of the reon. The coffin was closed and studded with allver mails; on the lift was a silver plate bearing these words

with a text of Smioture below. "You where he thy bowels, young man, to ence not to know the wars of the biesed

"When do you bure him?" "To-morrow formoon. The spot is two mile from here." He blinked at me, and her-

itated for a minute. "Is it your purpose, Airs, to attend? Be sure of that," I said, grimly. "So have beds ready to-might for all our com-

"All thy-! Dear sir, consider, where are place she had lifted me. and bore her down | beds to be found? Sure, thy mariners can pass the night absord their own ship!"
"So then," thought I, "you have been on
the isocout," but their replied for me

old singer but drup upon his known.
"Mistress Delta" Old gradly feast for this ne poor eve! On that Master Tingcomb

I declare the fears were running down his nose; but Bena marched out, cutting short

In the passage she whispered:

"Villainty, Jack."
"High!" I suggested, "and listen: Master Tingcomb is no more in that coffer than I." "That is just what we are to discover." As

I said this a light broke on me. "By the Lord," I cried, "his the very same!" Della opened her oyes wate. Wait, 1 said; "I begin to touch ground." We returned to the great hall. The straight mired man was still eating, and opposite sat ing to me, very mysterious, whapeved in a

"That's-a damned-rouse! Twas discomposing, but the truth. In fact, I had just solved a puzzle. This holy speaking minuter was no other than the groom I had seen at Bolinin fair holding

By this time the sun was down; and Delia. mon made an exuse to withdraw to her own room: Nor was it long before the rest folsaid you were weater than sie, she leved you prepared near together, in a wing of the better than Land read year learner. You are house at some distance from the half. Dolla's Jack -- se drew in Mully, and let her | was sext to mms, as I made sure by knockslept Billy with two of his crew, My own and I hope are honest, good friends; where | bed was in a great room sparely furnish and the lines indifferent wints. There was a plenty of clean suraw, though, on the floor,

had I intended to sleep - which I did not on the bed's ears, listening to the big clock waiting tall the fallows below should be at timir ease. Yout Master Traggomis rested under the cellin led I did not believe, in spite of the terrifying fit that I could wouch for But this, if driven to it, we could discover at he hoose that A great party of the grave. The main haviness was to catch him; and to this end I meant to putrof the buildings, and especially watch the entrance, on the likely chance of his creeping back to the house of not already inside to confer

As II unlock sounded, therefore, I turned the Godsend, and to hear the ories and star on Hally wall, and finding that Mats. Sommer of Billy Pottery's marines as they hauled was keeping water is we had agreed upon). And Billy himself was on the hollout with the first floor, ever a straw yard, and the dataking to the ground on easy drop for a more But wishing to be alleut to possible, I knotted two blankers together and, strepping the end card, and within half an hour a loat justs yound the window multien, ewung myself off, wherein, as sile draw nearer, I counted | down by one hand, holding my houts in the

Telropped very lightly, and looked about whose full names I have forgot-but one shadow, and among the I crops. The straw was called Namelas. And, after many warm | yard led toto the court neture the stable, and ngs, the bent was made fast, and we go into the main court. All the way I heard clear order, Ifin a little army.

All this time there was no sign or assired cleared, and the tar farlened on the great about the Home of Clerk to show that any gate seres the yard. I turned the corner to explore the third side of the house

Here was a group of outcafedings jutting as on my former vast, even the chiefinevs, our and between them and tas high outer wick amoueless. Such effect had this caso | wall a narrow alley. Twan with difficulty I clark as need, and rendered the straighter by a line of suggest instead planted under the house, to that at every other step I would

That done this for the eighth time and was carsing under my breath, when on a sud-den I heard a stealthy footfall carning down the alby belies me.
"Haster Tingrouth, for a erown?" thought

he freestops drow nearer. A dark form parted the laurely unother moment, and I had it by the throat.

"Hugh-ugh-grr! For the Lord's sake I lonerd my hold, bear Matt Boarsen four parties," wasspared I; "but why have

or left year posts?"
"Ren's Sampson is watchin, so I took the widom-ugai my payl stadpinet-to-to"-He broke off to catch me by the sleers and mil me down fiction the time. About twelve two about I know a door softly spread and now a shaft of light flung across the path between the giftening faurale. As the vay touched the outer wall I marked a small preern gate toern, standing open. Cowering inver, we waited while a man

might rount fifty. Then same footsteps trunching the grand, and a rough of men round for path, hearing a large chest be twen them. In the light leave the handle of a spade sticking out from it; and by his I have the second man to be my one

Week my old boogs?" he was muttering. "here's a farilel for a man o' my years!"
"Hold thy breath for the next load?"
greefed the other voice, which as surely was

we pasted together, nor rested till we were of this for a hiding | Musters: "He might make a worse guess," I mame with binning eyes, chroked berself, and "Sir. you have done my a many favors.